

Appl. No. : 10/085,169
Filed : February 25, 2002

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as set forth in the following listing of claims, which replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A device for the uniform delivery of fluid throughout an anatomical region, comprising an elongated catheter having a plurality of normally open exit holes along a length of said catheter, said exit holes gradually increasing in size along said length of said catheter, wherein the largest of said exit holes is nearer to the distal end of said catheter than the smallest of said exit holes, so that a fluid flowing under pressure within said catheter will flow through substantially all of said exit holes at a substantially equal rate, a lumen of said catheter having a cross-sectional flow area, each of said exit holes having a non-variable, combined cross-sectional flow area less than said flow area of said lumen so that said exit holes define a flow restricting orifice of said catheter, and said catheter being formed from a material that is non-reactive to anatomical systems.

2. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein said exit holes are provided throughout the circumference of said catheter.

3. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein the smallest of said exit holes has a diameter of at least 0.0002 inches and the largest of said exit holes has a diameter of at most 0.01 inches.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a device for the uniform delivery of fluid throughout an anatomical region, comprising the steps of:

forming an elongated catheter from a material that is non-reactive to anatomical systems; and

providing a plurality of normally open exit holes, each of said exit holes having a non-variable cross-sectional area along a length of said catheter, said exit holes gradually increasing in size along said length of said catheter, wherein the largest of said exit holes is nearer to the distal end of said catheter than the smallest of said exit holes, so that a fluid flowing under pressure within said catheter will flow through substantially all of said exit holes at a substantially equal rate, a lumen of said catheter having a cross-sectional flow area, said exit holes having a combined cross-sectional flow area less than

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said flow area of said lumen so that said exit holes define a flow restricting orifice of said catheter.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein said providing step includes providing said exit holes throughout the circumference of said catheter.

7. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 1, wherein said plurality of exit holes are arranged in at least one row aligned with a longitudinal axis of said catheter.

8. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 1, wherein a distal end of said catheter is closed, said closed distal end being unitarily formed with a side wall of said catheter.

9-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5, additionally comprising arranging said plurality of exit holes in at least one row aligned with a longitudinal axis of said catheter.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5, additionally comprising forming a closed distal end of said catheter unitarily with a side wall of said catheter.